

High School Graduation Requirements

Updated March 2016

In this document, you will find charts containing the current list of New Jersey assessment requirements in both English language arts (ELA) and mathematics for high school graduation for the Class of 2016, the Classes of 2017, 2018, and 2019, and the proposed requirements for the Classes of 2020 and 2021.

With the transition to PARCC last year, the Department of Education has continually explained that students graduating as members of the classes of 2016 through 2019 can meet graduation requirements through a variety of ways, including (1) achieving passing scores on certain PARCC assessments; (2) achieving certain scores on alternative assessments such as the SAT, ACT, or Accuplacer; or (3) the submission by the district of a student portfolio through the Department's portfolio appeals process. (Special Education students whose Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) specify an alternative way to demonstrate proficiencies will continue to follow the graduation requirements set forth in their IEPs.)

The State Board of Education is currently reviewing proposed changes to state regulations on the high school graduation requirements for the classes of 2020 and 2021 and beyond.

Proposed changes for the Class of 2020 would permit students to demonstrate graduation proficiency through the same alternative means as those in the classes of 2016 through 2019, provided that students in the Class of 2020 take all end-of-course PARCC assessments for which they are eligible as of the effective date of the proposed amendments.

For the Class of 2021 and thereafter, the proposed changes would allow students who have not demonstrated proficiency on ELA and mathematics through the end-of-course PARCC assessments by their senior year to demonstrate graduation proficiency by meeting the criteria of the portfolio appeals process.

It is important to note there has always been a system for students to demonstrate and meet graduation requirements through an alternative assessment or pathway to graduation throughout New Jersey's forty-year history with a statewide assessment program.

Class of 2016

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS (ELA)

PARCC ELA Grade 9 \geq 750 (Level 4)

or

PARCC ELA Grade 10 \geq 750 (Level 4)

or

PARCC ELA Grade 11 \geq 725 (Level 3)

or

SAT Reading* \geq 400

or

ACT Reading or ACT PLAN Reading \geq 16

or

Accuplacer Write Placer \geq 6

or

PSAT10 Reading or PSAT/NMSQT Reading** \geq 40

or

PSAT10 Reading or PSAT/NMSQT Reading*** \geq 22

or

ACT Aspire Reading \geq 422

or

ASVAB-AFQT Composite \geq 31

or

Meet the Criteria of the NJDOE Portfolio Appeal

MATHEMATICS

PARCC Algebra I \geq 750 (Level 4)

or

PARCC Geometry \geq 725 (Level 3)

or

PARCC Algebra II \geq 725 (Level 3)

or

SAT Math* \geq 400

or

ACT or ACT PLAN Math \geq 16

or

Accuplacer Elementary Algebra \geq 76

or

PSAT10 Math or PSAT/NMSQT Math** \geq 40

or

PSAT10 Math or PSAT/NMSQT Math*** \geq 22

or

ACT Aspire Math \geq 422

or

ASVAB-AFQT Composite \geq 31

or

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*Note: * SAT taken prior to March 2016; ** PSAT taken prior to October 2015; ***PSAT taken after October 2015. The College Board will establish new 'threshold scores' in May 2016 for the new SAT.*

Class of 2017, 2018 and 2019

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS (ELA)

PARCC ELA Grade 9

or

PARCC ELA Grade 10

or

PARCC ELA Grade 11

or

SAT Reading

or

ACT Reading or ACT PLAN Reading

or

Accuplacer Write Placer

or

PSAT10 Reading or PSAT/NMSQT Reading

or

PSAT10 Reading or PSAT/NMSQT Reading

or

ACT Aspire Reading

or

ASVAB-AFQT Composite

or

Meet the Criteria of the NJDOE Portfolio Appeal

MATHEMATICS

PARCC Algebra I

or

PARCC Geometry

or

PARCC Algebra II

or

SAT Math

or

ACT or ACT PLAN Math

or

Accuplacer Elementary Algebra

or

PSAT10 Math or PSAT/NMSQT Math

or

PSAT10 Math or PSAT/NMSQT Math

or

ACT Aspire Math

or

ASVAB-AFQT Composite

or

Meet the Criteria of the NJDOE Portfolio Appeal

(Proposed) **Class of 2020**

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS (ELA)

(Must Take) PARCC ELA Grade 9

and

(Must Take) PARCC ELA Grade 10

and

(Must Take) PARCC ELA Grade 11

***If passing score not met on any of the three,
then the student can use the following***

SAT Reading

or

ACT Reading or ACT PLAN Reading

or

Accuplacer Write Placer

or

PSAT10 Reading or PSAT/NMSQT Reading

or

PSAT10 Reading or PSAT/NMSQT Reading

or

ACT Aspire Reading

or

ASVAB-AFQT Composite

or

Meet the Criteria of the NJDOE Portfolio Appeal

MATHEMATICS

(Must Take) PARCC Algebra I

and

(Must Take) PARCC Geometry

and

(Must Take) PARCC Algebra II

***If passing score not met on any of the three,
then the student can use the following***

SAT Math

or

ACT or ACT PLAN Math

or

Accuplacer Elementary Algebra

or

PSAT10 Math or PSAT/NMSQT Math

or

PSAT10 Math or PSAT/NMSQT Math

or

ACT Aspire Math

or

ASVAB-AFQT Composite

or

Meet the Criteria of the NJDOE Portfolio Appeal

(Proposed) **Class of 2021**

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS (ELA)

(Must Take) PARCC ELA Grade 9

and

(Must Take and Pass) PARCC ELA Grade 10

and

(Must Take) PARCC ELA Grade 11

***If passing score not met on PARCC ELA Grade 10,
then the student can use the following***

Meet the Criteria of the NJDOE Portfolio Appeal

MATHEMATICS

(Must Take and Pass) PARCC Algebra I

and

(Must Take) PARCC Geometry

and

(Must Take) PARCC Algebra II

***If passing score not met on PARCC Algebra 1,
then the student can use the following***

Meet the Criteria of the NJDOE Portfolio Appeal